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CHAL-1048-60
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16 June 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

SUBJECT : Proposed U-2 Detachment for Overflight of the Chinese Mainland [redacted]

REFERENCE : CHAL-0994

1. Reference is made to your Memorandum dated 2 June 1960, subject above, and this "Estimate of the Situation" is submitted pertaining to the Materiel portion of such a proposal.

2. After discussions with AFCIG-5, USAF, and other staff Agencies within DPD, it is concluded that two U-2, J-57 configured aircraft, are being considered for assignment to [redacted]. Further, these aircraft will be supported through procedures established and utilized in the CHALICE Program. The Base from which such aircraft will operate is yet undetermined, except that it will be located [redacted]

3. It is extremely important at this point to emphasize the roll of the Project Depot in the support of Detachments "B", "C" and [redacted]. In addition, considerable support is being furnished all contractors in the "O" Program as well as the Test Site facility. The Depot has remained "clean" throughout its operation and appears to be the only activity which has not been compromised in the CHALICE System to date.

4. Should a decision be reached to proceed with this proposal, it increases the possibility of exposing any of those operations indicated in Paragraph 3 above. New channels for funneling supplies into [redacted] are bound to create speculation on our operation to some extent.

5. When the Base is selected, another factor to consider is the base support furnished by the Armed Forces. Should this become a permanent operation, over 60 days, it is highly desirable that we be situated on or relatively near an established base for comfort as well as economy of operation. Such services presently furnished our Detachments approximates 60% of total costs.

6. Personnel requirements were submitted to the Administration Branch on 13 June 1960 to cover the areas for which Materiel is responsible. Such figures included one Staff Materiel Officer, four Supply Airmen and ten Lockheed Aircraft Corporation Maintenance Technicians. Costs on facilities required are yet unknown, however, will be furnished within the next two weeks. This includes communications facilities which may be considerable based on past experience. Equipment presently at [redacted] would be utilized.

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7. The cost estimates in support of this proposal are listed on the attached document.

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8. In view of the above, it is suggested that the desirability of transferring two U-2's to FOG for the purpose of accomplishing this proposal be considered. [redacted] could be utilized, Warner-Robbins Air Force Depot is the primary source of supplies in support of FOG and stocks identical items to [redacted]

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[redacted]
Chief, Material Branch
DPD-DD/P

ATTACHMENT: 1

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MB/DPD-DD/P: [redacted]:mrs

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